

# Buddhism for Dummies

MC Lars

When I was little I was scared of earthquakes  
Out in California that's where the earth shakes  
Techtronic motion, it was terrifying  
I'd think of windows breaking and I'd think of people dying  
The Bay Bridge collapsed in 1989  
Richter scale 6.8, buildings shook a real long time  
I was in the other room when I heard my mother scream  
Thought adults were invincible it wasn't what it seemed  
15 seconds later there were dozens left dead  
I'd get scared at night and climb into my parents' bed  
I still get chills when I see photographs  
Of the freeways that were cracked and the buildings that collapsed  
So I'd act out in class shaking other people's desks  
Yelling "Earthquake!", to cope with the stress  
Using comedy, like I still do today  
20 years later nightmares haven't gone away

Impermanence, what you gonna do about it?  
Impermanence, run for your life? I doubt it  
Impermanence, I think about it every single day  
Everything falls apart, nothing you can do or say

There was an Oakland Hills fire in 1991  
People burned to death, I was very young  
They evacuated us to my grandparents' house  
We grabbed the cat and dog in the Volvo we were out  
Turned the news on, it was terrifying  
I was freaked out and my mom was crying  
And my sister too, but grandma turned it off  
She said, "Is this something that we really need to watch?"  
One thing I remember so clearly to this day  
Is an image in my head that won't seem to go away  
A car was crushed, a doll was melting on the seat  
The burnt black eyes were all that I could see  
Some nights I can't sleep, I still see her face  
Her eyes they still haunt me, I'm stuck in that place  
I try to make it go away, all I think of is the flames  
That week was so traumatic, I've never been the same

I was leaving for college, my dad woke me up  
He said, "We've been attacked," and sure enough  
Terrorists had hit the World Trade Center  
The Pentagon too, I clearly remember  
Sitting with my mom, now she was quiet  
It was raining bodies, dripping down the sidewalk  
Ten years later our economy's in crisis  
Bin Laden and his boys, they were not the nicest  
The earth is so alive so expect defenestration  
Constantly evolving decimating antiquation  
Collapsing new buildings, einsturzende Neubauten  
The cities will all crumble when man has been forgotten  
The Buddhists believed that change is eternal  
Heraclitus thought that the world is an inferno  
One day we're here and the next we're gone,  
Impermanence, that's the point of this song